



# LETTERS...

## TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

Having become a member of SPE more than 60 years ago, I find myself and certainly its contents are indicative of the changes in and growth of the fraternity since that time.

I was pledged by Michigan Alpha as the second man to be pledged after formal establishment of that chapter and would hate to miss my opportunity.

Incidentally, what has become of Michigan Alpha? I never see news of that chapter although other chapters in the state seem to be as active as was Alpha in the early days of its existence. Perhaps all the power and prestige must entail a submit a amount of personal history which may have interest.

I served as a captain USA in WWII in research and development of aircraft armament and served as a Branch Chief in WPA in Washington, D.C. I am now retired and following these experiences I have been active in engineering in the fields of heating, cooling, and ventilation until retirement 13 years ago.

Since then I have managed to keep busy between practice of my avocation (writing) (I am a member of the Writers Guild of America) and my vocation to which I occasionally return for a few selected projects in the areas noted as a consulting engineer including most recent and current research on solar heating systems design.

C.W. (Tom) Thomas

Michigan, '13

Dear Editor

I want to take time to let the Journal know how a grateful alumnus feels about his college experience as a brother in Sigma Phi Epsilon.

I graduated in May, 1973, with a BA from the University of Kentucky and was a member of Kentucky Alpha. I have always felt that any fraternity is only as good as its members and each member can get out of it what he puts into it. I feel that you have done the job and most of all fraternalism is changing from "total parties" to growth and development through campus and community involvement. I left then and still feel

that Kentucky Alpha is a strong chapter due to involvement, and I am proud to be an alumnus of that chapter.

If new students could realize what an asset fraternity life could be to them later in the business world they would realize that fraternities aren't what they used to be—Sigma Phi Epsilon is Better.

Stephen Wood  
Kentucky Alpha, '73

Dear Editor

I note with considerable annoyance that the Alumni News section of the Journal in 1974 contained unreliable lists physicians holding MDs as "Dr" while failing to extend the same courtesy to other holders of doctoral degrees such as J.D., Ed. D. and, of course, Ph.D.

The title "Dr" was historically reserved for a few highly respected scholars and other men of great learning. The contemporary Ph.D. is probably the closest to the "original" doctor's degree many of which were then honorary degrees bestowed upon distinguished scholars including some physicians and academics. Of course, it is still the highest degree awarded by any university.

Over the years the vocationally educated, primarily in order to aggrandize their various trades and crafts, have adopted the title and now, in apparent complete ignorance, have preceded many of these professions now regard themselves as "real" doctors and those with any degree other than the professional degree as unwashed usurpers. Ironc isn't it?

In light of all this may I suggest that you, the editor, encourage the use of doctors with the prefix Dr., or in the spirit of democratic brotherhood, drop the title altogether? Perhaps the latter suggestion is the more viable as the title is now so widely used and prostituted that it is rather meaningless anyway.

Terence Brown, Texas Epsilon 1963  
Assistant to the Dean  
Southern Illinois University  
(see page 3)

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION  
FOR THE FEDERAL EXAMINER  
ISSUED BY THE SOUTHERN INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP

Quantity - Autumn - Fall, January Spring  
Yearly - 1974 - 1975 - 1976 - 1977 - 1978 - 1979 - 1980 - 1981 - 1982 - 1983 - 1984 - 1985 - 1986 - 1987 - 1988 - 1989 - 1990 - 1991 - 1992 - 1993 - 1994 - 1995 - 1996 - 1997 - 1998 - 1999 - 2000 - 2001 - 2002 - 2003 - 2004 - 2005 - 2006 - 2007 - 2008 - 2009 - 2010 - 2011 - 2012 - 2013 - 2014 - 2015 - 2016 - 2017 - 2018 - 2019 - 2020 - 2021 - 2022 - 2023 - 2024 - 2025 - 2026 - 2027 - 2028 - 2029 - 2030 - 2031 - 2032 - 2033 - 2034 - 2035 - 2036 - 2037 - 2038 - 2039 - 2040 - 2041 - 2042 - 2043 - 2044 - 2045 - 2046 - 2047 - 2048 - 2049 - 2050 - 2051 - 2052 - 2053 - 2054 - 2055 - 2056 - 2057 - 2058 - 2059 - 2060 - 2061 - 2062 - 2063 - 2064 - 2065 - 2066 - 2067 - 2068 - 2069 - 2070 - 2071 - 2072 - 2073 - 2074 - 2075 - 2076 - 2077 - 2078 - 2079 - 2080 - 2081 - 2082 - 2083 - 2084 - 2085 - 2086 - 2087 - 2088 - 2089 - 2090 - 2091 - 2092 - 2093 - 2094 - 2095 - 2096 - 2097 - 2098 - 2099 - 20100 - 20101 - 20102 - 20103 - 20104 - 20105 - 20106 - 20107 - 20108 - 20109 - 20110 - 20111 - 20112 - 20113 - 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# Part II Sigma Phi Epsilon Year-end Report



from  
the Grand President

by William A. McDonough

During the past year I have visited 22 undergraduate chapters in nine states. The welcome given has been heartwarming. For our many alumni brothers who have not had an opportunity to be on campus recently, I can happily report that there is a very positive attitude. Our undergraduate brothers are excited about their Fraternity and eager to talk to alumni about what they are doing. Interest in Fraternities and experiences are up. Interest in fraternities is up and we did increase our number of pledges but unfortunately the increased interest has not yet produced an increase in new brothers. The leveling of the number of new brothers (initiates) at an average of 16 per chapter is a cause for concern. Your Board of Directors has made a commitment to provide support to the chapters at this crucial time by continuing the Headquarters visitation program at full strength. As you can see from our financial report, it can be very expensive, but we feel it is necessary if we are to continue to give our chapters the management consulting services they ask for and need.

The manpower levels our chapters maintain are important, but equally important is the quality of our Fraternity experience. One gauge of our quality is the stature our chapters maintain on campus. There is a report below on Sigma Phi Epsilon's standing among its competitors and I am happy to report that our chapters are doing well. Our chapters are also considered by their peers to be among the top half of the chapters on their campus in terms of chapter size, strength and prestige. This is an increase from 58% just three years ago and ranks us among the top four national fraternities. All of our brothers should take pride in this accomplishment.

The programs we have been working on in the past year are designed to assist our chapters in increasing their ability to maintain the equality Fraternity experience. The Attitudinal Survey presented to you in the June issue of the Journal was valuable in confirming that we are in tune with our undergraduate brothers. We are conducting a second phase of the Attitudinal Survey to determine precisely the attitudes of high school students and college men who do not yet belong to a fraternity. We expect that the results of the second phase will enable us to work with the chapters to recruit additional men who do not belong to the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity. Your Board of Directors has established the Sigma Phi Epsilon Educational Foundation, under the leadership of Brother J. Edward Zellinger, which funded both phases of the Attitudinal Survey.

Another important program which has received added emphasis this year is our District System. The Fraternity's District Governors, Chapter Counselors and Alumni Boards, all volunteers, are making a significant contribution to our Fraternity and their efforts are paying off. It would be impossible for our excellent Headquarters Staff to meet the Fraternity's needs without these dedicated alumni who are the "backbone" of the Fraternity.

To conclude my report I compliment our fine Headquarters staff. The last issue of the Journal gave you an inside view of the Headquarters operation but without being there it is difficult to appreciate the work of our professionals. Your Board of Directors has given the Headquarters staff an excellent Fraternity policies and meeting Fraternity objectives and goals in an excellent manner. The new pledge manual and comprehensive pledge program on "Brotherhood Development" is a Headquarters product and it is excellent. The new symbol and visual identity program introduced in the last Journal as created by Brother Bruce Blackburn is being implemented in a highly professional manner by the Headquarters staff. Annual, the staff makes more than 500 visits to our chapters, conduct eight regional leadership conferences, provide programs to support the District System, publishes the Journal, conducts an active expansion program, provides guides, manuals and individualized programs in all operational areas, and accomplishes a multitude of tasks which occur daily.

As we prepare for our 75th Anniversary year I am encouraged and feel that you have every right to take pride in your Fraternity. Sigma Phi Epsilon is meeting its objective of excellence and its principles of Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love.

## Fraternity Survey Rates Individual Chapter Quality

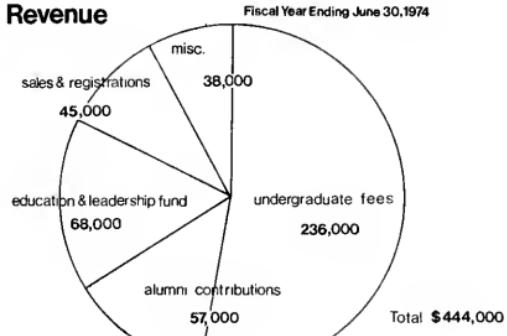
The number of Sigma Phi Epsilon chapters ranked in the upper half of the fraternities on their campuses reached an all-time high in 1974, according to an independent survey conducted in the spring of 1974.

The survey, conducted annually since 1923 by the College Survey Bureau of Los Angeles, Calif., asks each chapter of the 22 participating national fraternities and sororities to rank all "other" fraternities on their campus based on comparative "importance, prominence, and power." The 1974 survey results show 137 of Sigma Phi Epsilon's 192 chapters ranked their competition in the top half of the fraternities on their campus. This is Sigma Phi Epsilon's national quality ranking of 71.7% for 1974 which is an increase of 9% from the 65.8% rating in 1973. Of the 137 chapters ranked in the top half, 91 were rated number one or tied for number one on their campus; 29 were in the first quarter, and 77 were in the second quarter.

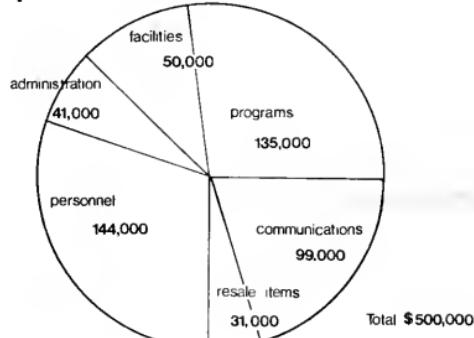
Sigma Phi Epsilon progress See chart at right

\*From the total 192 chapters, Texas A & M, Texas Mu, was not rated, Sigma Phi Epsilon being the only fraternity on that campus

## Revenue



## Expense



Frank J. Ruck, Jr.  
Sigma Phi Epsilon Grand Treasurer



The above chart depicting financial operations for fiscal 1974 (through June 30, 1974) is not the type of report I am happy to submit. It does, however, show that our financial operation continues to make a service commitment to undergraduate and alumni brothers. Sigma Phi Epsilon is a non-profit corporation. It must provide the necessary level of service. To have more expense than income in any particular year is not a cause for concern for a non-profit corporation. We do feel that with a loss on normal operation in four of the last five years Sigma Phi Epsilon needs an increase in: 1) chapter size, 2) alumni support, and 3) an adjustment in membership fees. Whatever the combination of these increases I am confident that our future financial well-being is sound. As always, your support of Sigma Phi Epsilon is a necessary ingredient for our well-being.

## 50-Year Quality Statistics

Year	No. of Chapters	% in Top Quality
1924	50	24%
1930	63	27%
1940	69	33%
1948	82	35%
1956	143	43%
1960	148	52%
1970	164	61%
1971	183	58%
1972	187	64.4%
1973	193	69.8%
1974	192	71.7%

Wilson B. Heller, manager and editor of the College Survey Bureau, who has conducted the surveys since 1923, said after compiling the report, "Every wanted quality parallels and soon follows comparative size. Quality is not much or easily obtained until first comes quantity."



To change or correct your address  
ATTACH LABEL HERE  
from your latest issue

Please Notify Us 6 Weeks in Advance

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# The Journal Looks at Chapter Housing



by J. Russell Pratt  
president, National Housing Corporation

The National Housing Board, now the National Housing Corporation, was formed by legislation adopted by the 1959 Grand Chapter Conclave in Washington, D.C., upon the recommendation of a study committee assigned the task of "how Sigma Phi Epsilon could improve its housing." Now, 15 years later, the National Housing Corporation has assets of \$630,000 which consists of equity in chapter loans. Each year the National Housing Corporation receives \$5 from every \$15 pledge fee, and \$5 per man in each chapter in order to continue the chapter loan program.

With this money, since 1959, more than \$1,000,000 has been loaned to chapters for the improvement of housing. Frequently, the National Housing Corporation has loaned the last 10% that made many housing projects possible.

To date, more than 50 percent of all our chapters, a total of 100, have taken advantage of the National Housing Corporation loans. Some of those chapters are: Arizona, Arizona State, Bucknell, Ohio State, Auburn, Miami, Cincinnati, Bradley, Indiana, Evansville, Washburn, Fort Hayes, John Hopkins, Davidson, Texas, North Texas, Lamar, Oklahoma, Texas Tech, Washington & Lee, Washington State University, University of Washington, West Virginia, and Marquette. There are many more.

Our Fraternity today is using real estate in the form of chapter houses worth more than \$10,000,000 as a result of the establishment of the Housing Corporation. But, we have at least a \$15,000,000 problem ahead of us.

The fraternity world has just been through difficult periods with fraternity membership dropping to new lows. The National Housing Corporation has suffered with the fraternity world in encountering losses, and we have some losses that have not been fully recognized. However, remember that the National Housing Corporation is providing a loan that most bankers would not consider under any circumstances. This, coupled with a period of time when some universities have gone bankrupt, makes some losses inevitable. Yet, if we don't take such risks there is no justification for the existence of the National Housing Corporation. In part we must lend money on the faith in our ability to run a fraternity.

I know that the entire Fraternity joins me in expressing thanks to my fellow National Housing Corporation Trustees who donate a good deal of their time, professional judgment, and fraternity experience to the undergraduate living experience across the country. The trustees are Lewis A. Mason, vice president; Robert M. Jones, Raymond C. McCron, W. Brooks Reed, and Charles N. White, Jr., secretary-treasurer.

Many chapters have solved their own housing problems over a long period, and we extend our congratulations for such success. Let us hear from you. Perhaps the trustees of the National Housing Corporation can learn something from your success.

## Tri-State Rebuilds Both Houses

Both of our houses were gutted and completely rebuilt," said Steve Greene, controller of Indiana Theta chapter at Tri-State College in Angola.

Started in the spring of 1973, the rebuilding project involved tearing out all walls and facilities, and replacing them with new walls, new plumbing, new wiring, and constructing a new kitchen and two more bedrooms. Both houses received new aluminum siding. The brothers did all of the preparation and construction work, and Greene installed the wiring and plumbing.

The two houses, adjacent to each other, accommodate 36 brothers (24 in the main house and 12 in the second). The project cost more than \$100,000 when completed. We expect to have our savings and building funds," Greene said. The Chapter Investment Fund provided \$2,700 for the project. The bulk was financed through loans from local institutions.

January 1974 was the move-in date even though finishing touches are still being made to the new house by the brothers.

Improvements of this type are most common among chapter projects and account for many of the requests for Chapter Investment Fund money. Each chapter's alumni board is responsible for house improvements and therefore should be consulted on any major house projects. If it is necessary to apply for Chapter Investment Fund money, the Alumni Board must review the application which will be carefully reviewed by Trustees of the National Housing Corporation. NHC decisions are based on need and chapter strength.

Remember, however, that the Chapter Investment Fund is operated on the same principle as most stocks in the stock market. The longer it is invested the more it will be worth. Housing is the chapter's greatest long-range activity.

Many chapters like Tri-State are using local financing for house improvement projects. By working with their alumni, chapters benefit from a great deal of experience and good judgment.



Indiana Theta-Tri-State College

## Bowling Green Green House Remodeled

Another university-backed project provided \$120,000 worth of renovations to the Ohio Kappa chapter at Bowling Green State University which owns the house. The chapter's plan to replace large appliances, floors, ceilings, paneling, and windows resulted from the more than two million dollar total spent by Bowling Green in remodeling nearly all of the

fraternity and sorority facilities.

Members of the chapter took part in

planning the improvements and

selecting colors for the house.

From its local funds the Ohio Kappa chapter paid for new furniture, curtains, carpeting, and various small appliances. The 84-man chapter is now saving for more new furniture.



Ohio Kappa-Bowling Green State University



Brothers studying in the newly remodeled and attractive quarters at Missouri Theta, Central Missouri State. Such spacious quarters help to create a pleasant atmosphere for the chapter house and are conducive to good study habits.



Attractive Auburn chapter house, completed in February, 1973.

## Housing Corporation Loan Helps Make Auburn House A Reality For Fraternity

The construction of a 32-man chapter house at Auburn took mortgage at seven percent from Auburn University, and a 20-year term of \$100,000 at 7.5 percent, a half percent from the National Housing Corporation. Alabama Alpha's Chapter Investment Fund and financing by the National Housing Corporation helped make the house a reality.

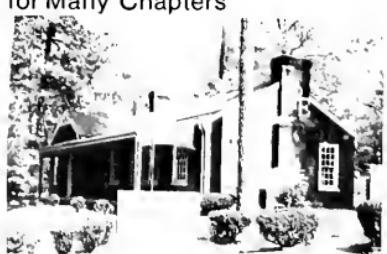
The floor plan of the house based on the apartment living concept, includes a large living room, a dining room, a kitchen, and a recreation room.

To date, total cost of the project has been \$195,366 construction, \$176,023, architect's fee, \$13,044 furniture, \$5,700 additional building materials, \$600 Future house needs include air conditioning and paving of the parking lot.

The house at Alabama Alpha could not have been built without the encouragement of an financial assistance from the National Housing Corporation.

To build the house the Alumni

## Lodges Become Popular for Many Chapters



The Virginia Alpha (University of Richmond) lodge pictured above is typical of the increasingly popular concept among Sig Ep chapters—e

relatively inexpensive and easy-to-care-for chapter house.

Many lodges sleep three to ten brothers and usually provide a chapter meeting room and small kitchen, as does Virginia Alpha's. Some chapters have members live in dormitories or apartments, maintain daily meal programs at the lodge, providing an opportunity for brothers and pledges to be together regularly.

Chapters now functioning in lodges find them practical not only for meetings, but also for socials, rush functions, initiations, banquets, and other ceremonies. Also, the lodge provides members a feeling of identity with a traditional home.

The National Housing Corporation supports lodges as a viable means of chapter housing, and will assist chapters interested in investigating and planning for a chapter lodge.



















# Living Endowment Support Funds Programs

With the first appeal for the 1974-75 Living Endowment now in the mail, let's look at the results of last year's campaign. Purple members had all chapters in number of contributors with 46 followed by Delaware State, 42 and Dho State, 37. The remaining 31 chapters had 50% of total had 20 or more contributors, 56 chapters (29%) had between 10 and 20 contributors, and 93 chapters (48%) had 10 or more contributors. This broadens the base of contributors and should help us reach the goal of \$450,000.

Your contributions to the Living Endowment enable us to enhance under-graduate and alumni programs, as well as to create new projects of concern to our members. These programs have a general effect of improving all Fraternity operations, so every member benefits from the Living Endowment. These programs simply could not be started or continued without your support.

We thank the Sig Eps listed here for their loyalty and participation in last year's Living Endowment program. We welcome your participation in this year's program and please let us know if you have any questions about it. We also include a list of our newest for the Sigma Phi Epsilon Journal.

**COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY—22**

John A. Vantini, 71

Harold F. Collins, 71

Edward M. Gorley, 71

John A. Fisher, 71

James D. Gleason, 64

Richard T. Gleason, 64

Robert T. Gleason, 64

John B. Springer, 71

John N. Starnes, 71

John W. Springer, 71

John N. Starnes, 71

John W. Springer, 71

